

Merry-Go-Round With Jumping Horses
The Greatest Happiness on Earth

Manufacturer: Fritz Bothmann, Gotha

Year of construction: Built around 1900 according to the plans of a showman from 1885, modernised by the Karussell- und Waggonfabrik

Owner: Dirk-Josef Rosenzweig, Bergheim

Horse roundabouts are one of the oldest types of rides. The jumping movement of the animals, however, only developed in the 19th century.

Permanent merry-go-rounds with horses could already be found in the 18th century in aristocratic pleasure gardens. From the 1830s onwards, these rides were set up on fairgrounds for the first time, but the "animals" themselves were still immobile.

Merry-go-rounds with jumping horses have existed in Germany since 1870. The ride shown here was originally pulled by a horse. Around the turn of the century it was electrified and initially powered by a locomobile. It is one of the oldest travelling rides of its kind in Germany.